

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DATE: September 13, 2005

CONTACT: Sherry Godlewski, 603-559-1529

Media Advisory

Paintin' the Streets!

Storm Drain Stenciling

You are cordially invited to join the Hodgson Brook Advisory Board with assistance from the Portsmouth Dept. of Public Works, the N.H. Dept. of Environmental Services, the Advocates of North Mill Pond, the New Franklin School, and the United Way Day of Caring volunteers, Newmarket International who will participate in a storm drain stenciling activity in the neighborhoods of Dennett St. and Pannaway Manor. Program attendees will paint storm drains with "***Don't Dump, Protect Your Waters***" messages and canvass the neighborhood with informational door hangers to raise awareness of the local water pollution caused by storm drain waste. Participants will meet at the New Franklin School and stenciling should last for approximately 3 hours throughout the Dennett St. neighborhood. In the afternoon participants will stencil the Pannaway Manor neighborhood from approximately 1pm - 4pm

What: Storm drain stenciling activity in Dennett St and Pannaway Manor Neighborhoods. The event will start at New Franklin School, Portsmouth NH

When: Wednesday, September 14 at 9:00 a.m.

Where: In the morning, New Franklin School neighborhood – Dennett St. starting from behind the New Franklin School. In the afternoon, meeting at Pannaway Park, Schurman Ave (off Colonial Dr). Stenciling in Pannaway Manor (directions below)

This storm drain stenciling project is part of a larger educational effort to address Hodgson Brook and North Mill Pond's current water contamination problems, which can be attributed to pollutants entering local waterways through storm water runoff. Storm Drain Stenciling is an educational effort to make citizens aware that storm drains connect with surface or ground water and that dumping of dog waste, oil, antifreeze, fuels, paint, leaves, grass clippings or other materials in storm drains causes damage to surface and groundwater (in Portsmouth much of this storm water flows directly into Hodgson Brook and North Mill Pond). City officials, Advocates of North Mill Pond, Hodgson Brook Advisory Board, and DES staff are working on special projects that promote awareness of the water quality of Hodgson Brook and North Mill Pond.

For more information, please contact Sherry Godlewski (603) 559-1529 or Barbara McMillan, DES Watershed Bureau, (603) 271-7889 or (603) 559-1517

Directions: From the Portsmouth traffic circle take the Woodbury Ave exit. Take a right off the exit. Dennett St is the first left. In the afternoon we will be at Pannaway Manor. To get to Pannaway Manor from Dennett St., get back on the Portsmouth traffic circle. Exit at the Route 1 bypass (near the Meadowbrook Inn). Follow the bypass to Borthwick Ave (the second right hand turn). Follow Borthwick Ave past Portsmouth Hospital, past North East Credit Union ~1.25 miles. At a stop sign (RT 33 and RT 95 will be on your left) go forward onto Greenland Rd. Disregard dead end signs. You will see a Sherburne Store with a Pepsi sign up ahead; take that

right onto Sherburne Rd. Extension. Pass the Alternative School on the right, go over the highway (~1/4 mile) and go right onto Colonial Drive. Look for people with orange vests painting the street!

This project was made possible through volunteer efforts of the Advocates of North Mill Pond, Hodgson Brook Advisory Board, with support from Sea Grant/UNH Cooperative Extension & was funded by the NH Department of Environmental Services & the City of Portsmouth. For more information, contact Sherry Godlewski at (603) 559-1529.

<http://www.des.state.nh.us/HodgsonBrook/>